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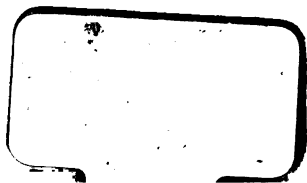
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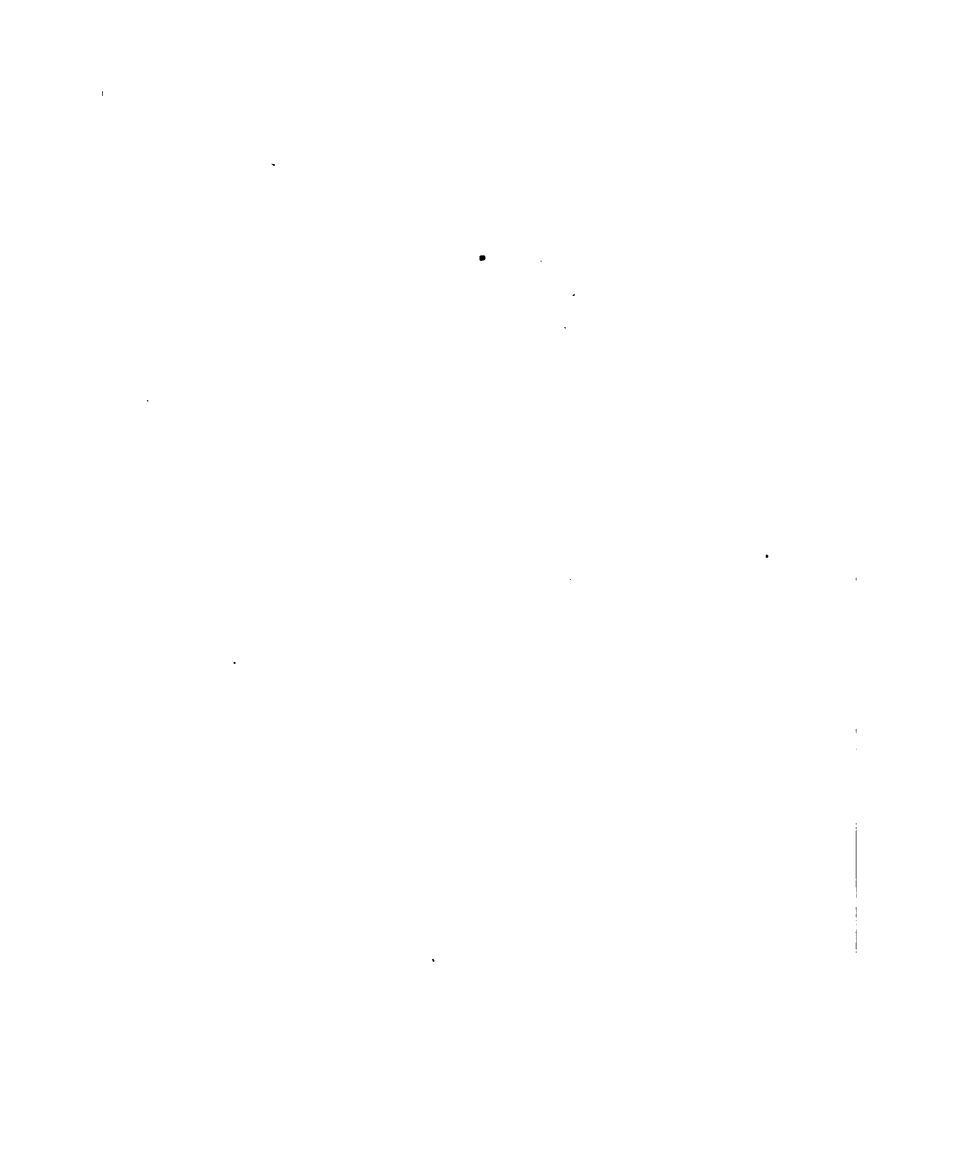
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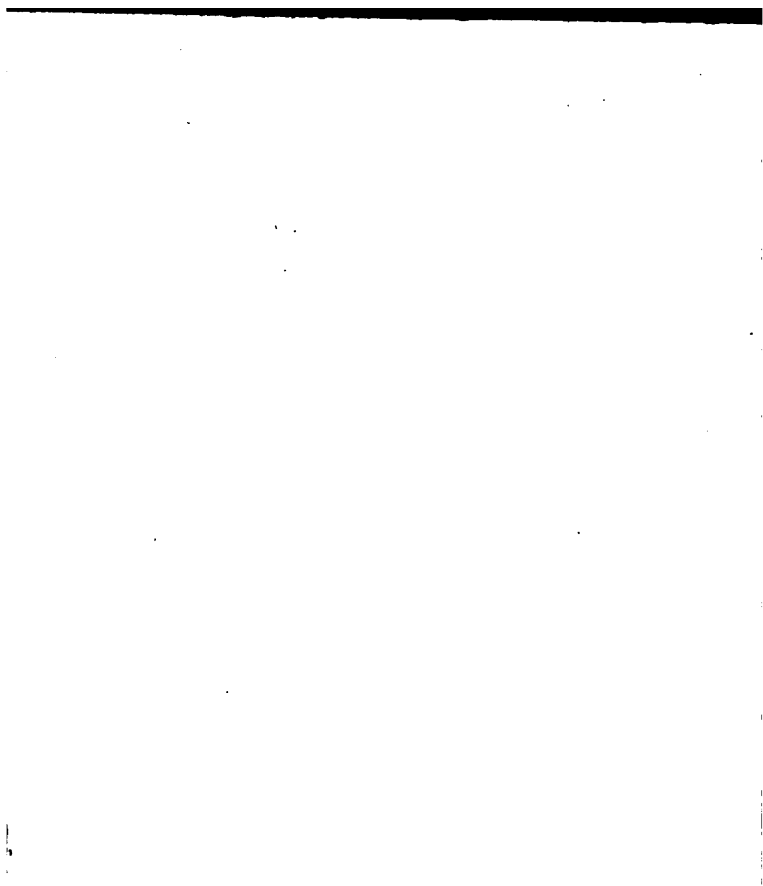


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THE CURATE'S STUDY.—EVENING AMUSEMENT.

THE
PICTURESQUE PRIMER;

OR,

USEFUL MATTER

MADE

PLEASING PASTIME FOR LEISURE HOURS.

BY THE REV. W. FLETCHER,

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE;

AUTHOR OF "THE LITTLE GRAMMARIAN," "LESSONS OF WISDOM," &c.

NEW EDITION.

WITH ONE HUNDRED ENGRAVINGS ON WOOD.

LONDON:

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THE
PICTURESQUE PRIMER.

CHAPTER I.

“Now, my dear children,” said the Curate of Rosedell, one day to his little ones, as they stood around him, in his study, looking at some prints, “is not your Mamma very good, to give you such pretty pictures? I am sure, I have not seen any so pleasing for a long time; and as she has, by her present, contributed so much to *amuse* you, I will, on the other hand, *instruct* you,

by giving you a description of the things they represent.

“ Pictures, it is true, are very pretty things to look at ; but if you wish to make them useful as well as pleasing, as all good children will do, you must strive to know something more about them than the mere looking at them will afford.

“ I shall, therefore, feel much pleasure in explaining the nature and uses of the figures in the pretty cuts, or pictures, before us.

“ But first, perhaps, it may be better for me to explain what a cut is. Now, here you see many pictures, or figures of things, in the book before you ; how then, or by what means, were they thus

drawn on the paper? You are silent; a clear proof that you do not know. Well then, I will attempt to inform you.

“First, then, are prepared little blocks of box-wood, by cutting the stems or trunks of the box-tree across, and then rubbing down the surface of each till it is quite smooth, and ready for the design of the artist, or engraver. A sketch is then made on it, after the fancy or will of the artist, in the same way as I should take a pen, or a pencil, and make a drawing of a man, or a tree, or a landscape, or any other subject, on paper. When the design is complete, the engraver cuts away, with certain tools, such parts of the block as he

wishes to be left light in the print, that is to say, such parts of the wood as do not appear in the drawing. When that is done, the whole drawing stands out from the block in bold relief, or with a raised surface, showing nothing but the lines needful to form the picture. The wood-cut is thus complete.

“It now passes into the hands of the printer, who fixes, or sets it in a frame, either alone or with its proper letter-press accompaniment. Its surface is then covered with ink of a thick consistence, and damp paper, attached to another frame, is laid upon it. The whole is now passed under a screw-press, which at once, by due pressure, transfers the ink from the block to the

paper, and thus the pictures, as you see them, are formed.

“Having added this small mite to your present stock of knowledge, I shall dismiss you for the present. To-morrow, after school hours, I shall be glad to see you again ; and I will then explain more of these cuts to you.

“I trust, you do not think them beneath your notice, simple as they may be ; for many wiser heads than your’s have thought it no disgrace to invent such of the subjects as are the work of art, and to ponder deeply on those which own a good and gracious God for their Maker.

“If you wish to form a just idea of the powers of the human mind, shewn

as they are in the works of men's hands, go into the studies of the learned, the workshops of the artizans, or the fields of the peasant ; and you will see enough to convince you, that man is indeed, in point of worldly wisdom, but little lower than the angels.

“But, if you would see God, as it were, face to face ; if you would behold His presence, His power, and His goodness, look at the wonders of His works : the heavens, the earth, and the wide rolling sea. Look at nature, and you will see *Him* there ; and not less wondrous in the simplest blade of grass or grain of sand, than in the proudest tree of the forest, or the highest mountain that ever lifted its head towards heaven.

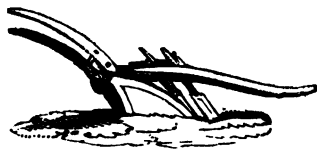
Disdain not then these trifles that are spread before you ; for they may be called seeds of that wisdom which may hallow your walk on earth, and lift your souls to heaven. It is now growing late, and Mamma, I see, is waiting to hear you say your prayers, and Jane to attend you to bed. So, one farewell kiss, my little ones, and then—Good night, and may God be with you !”



CHAPTER II.

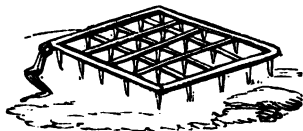
“COME, my little ones,” said the Curate to his children, the next evening, “let us go into the study, now that you have ended your lessons for the day ; and I will explain the nature and use of some of those figures your Mamma’s pretty prints contain. Now, I must beg you to attend very closely to what I may say ; as it is very likely, when we have ended our task, that I shall ask you, Henry, Edward, Mary, and Edith, to explain them to me, in the same manner as I shall explain them to you.

Well, then, I will begin with the PLOUGH, which is the farmer's most useful implement : with it he breaks up the most stubborn earth, and renders the heaviest soil fit to receive its proper seed. With a piece of iron, fixed in its beam, called the *coulter*, he cuts the ground, whilst the ploughshare, a pointed plate of iron, coming after, turns up the fresh and fertile earth, and buries the upper sod, or surface, beneath it. The plough is drawn by horses, and guided by a person who is called the *ploughman*.



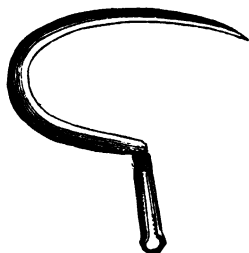
“ Thus the arable or corn lands are, as it were, dug up and prepared for our next implement to travel over, namely, the Harrow.

“ The HARROW is a frame of wood, or iron, with cross bars, thickly set with sharpish iron teeth, about eight or ten inches in length. It is used to prepare the ploughed land for seed ; which it does, by raking over its surface, breaking its large clods into pieces, and gathering the weeds and rubbish toge-



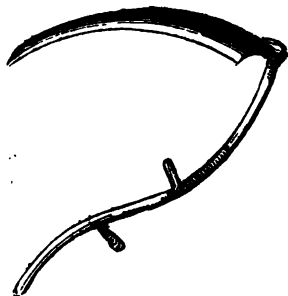
ther. It is also used to mix the seed with the soil, after the sower has scattered it about. The harrow is drawn by horses, and guided by a man or boy. Sometimes, three or four harrows are linked together; they then form what is called a gang of harrows.

“Our next print, I see, is the SICKLE; a farming implement, which never fails to excite a summer feeling in the heart of those who behold it. It is a curved piece of steel, fixed into a handle, for



the cutting, or reaping of corn. Armed with this, the reaper goes into the harvest-field, and cuts the straws of the ripe corn asunder with one hand, whilst the other is engaged in holding the corn which he reaps. It is bent, in order that it may be used with the greater ease and advantage; its edge is not sharp like a knife, but full of small notches, like a very fine saw; for had it a fine edge, the thick straws would soon destroy it.

“So much for the sickle. And now for the SCYTHE, which makes us almost fancy the new-mown hay is lying in full fragrance before us.



“It is composed of a long bent stick, with two handles fixed to it at a proper distance from each other, and a long thin blade of steel at its head. With this blade the mower cuts down the grass for hay, as also oats and barley, clover, tares, &c. It is kept sharp by being whetted, or rubbed with a piece of hard stone, every now and then by the

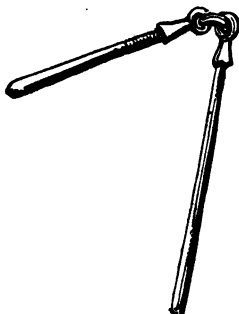
mower. The sounds thus made by him, as he rubs the whetstone on the blade, are very pleasing ; not so much because the sounds themselves are very grateful to the ear, but for this reason, that they are sounds heard only in the sweet spring, when all things are gay and merry around us.

“ The next is the WHEATSHEAF, which,



nodding its well-filled ears to us, is merely a bundle of corn, formed by the reaper, as he pursues his grateful labours. When his left arm is so full of corn that he cannot well carry more, he stops, and ties it up with a handful of the straws, and then places it with others, to form what is called *a shock*. When these are thought dry and ripe enough, they are taken away by wag-gons to the stack, or barn, where our friend the Flail, commences his attack upon them.

“The FLAIL is formed of two pieces of wood, of unequal length, fixed to each other by thongs of leather, or rings of iron. The larger piece the thrasher takes in his hand, whilst with the other,



which is made of very heavy wood, he beats the unbound sheaves till the corn, or seed, is fully parted from the ears. The grain is then dressed, and put away for sale, or use ; and the straw is given to the cattle for food or litter.

“The old way of thrashing, spoken of in the *Bible*, was by oxen, which were made to trample on the corn till all the ears

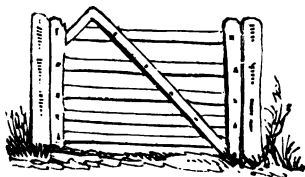
were empty. The knowledge of this fact explains what is meant in the passage of Scripture : "Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn."

But thrashing is sometimes performed by mills.

There is a flat board, on which a boy places the sheaf, spread out with the ears of corn towards the mill. As they are pushed forward, a large iron comb tears off the ears from the straw, and carries them farther under the beaters or flails; of which there are a whole row, forty or fifty in number, which rise and fall alternately, and beat out the grains of corn with great rapidity. The grains, and such of the rubbish as can

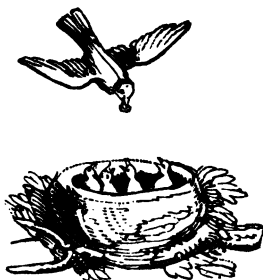
pass through a sieve, fall into the riddle, placed underneath, which is shaken with a quick motion. By this means the corn is cleansed from the chaff, and falls into a box.

Our next subject presents us with a GATE, which, I see, is made of five bars of wood, with their proper cross bars and posts; one to support it by its hinges, the other to keep it fast by a catch or hook. The farmer, of course, wants open places, by which he may enter his



fields, without, at the same time, laying them open to the intrusive visits of his sheep or oxen. This he effects by means of Gates, which open at his will, and shut at his pleasure. And here let me give you a caution, not to attempt jumping over gates ; for I once knew a man who broke both his legs, by catching them (in his attempt to leap over a gate for a wager), under the upper bar, and breaking them just below the knee.

Ah ! here is a BIRD'S NEST, with four pretty young ones in it, and the old one, I declare, is bringing them something to eat. A Bird's Nest is a very pretty thing to look at, even when there are neither eggs nor young ones in it. How many little pieces of stick, straw, and

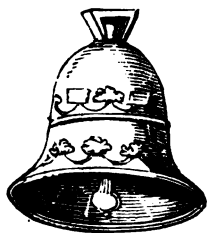


moss, form its outside; and how many feathers are used for its lining! It must surely be a very toilsome task for the old birds to build up such a neat resting-place and home for their little ones; but, I dare say, they do it with great good-will and pleasure. And then, how neatly they build, and how nicely the various parts of their nest are woven together! "What nice hand," as Hurdis, a modern poet, has sweetly sung,

“With every implement and means to boot,
Could make me such another ?”

And here let me give you a small piece of advice, my dear children ; and that is, never to be found robbing a poor bird of its eggs, or young ; for, doubtless, it feels for its offspring in the same way as your parents do for you. Think that they are God’s creatures, and not made for man to destroy wantonly ; and I am sure you will not dare to offend Him by wronging them.

We have here, I see, a BELL. It is a metal instrument, with a clapper hung inside of it, which, being swung backwards and forwards, strikes on its side, and produces a sound. It is used for the purpose of giving notice, or



alarm, in churches and houses. Bells are of very ancient date, and were used by the Jews, Greeks, Romans, and Heathens, many hundreds, of years back. They were first hung in our churches about the year of our Lord 700. St. Ivan's bell of Moscow is the largest in the world, and weighs nearly eight times as much as Great Tom of Oxford, whose weight is seventeen thousand pounds. Bells were baptised and named by

the Roman Catholics, before they were hung.

Our next subject to explain, is a BEE-HIVE, with its busy little gentry flying and buzzing about it.



This emblem of industry is the abode of labour, the cell where none but lazy, good-for-nothing drones lead an idle life. The hive itself is made of straw, and forms a nice abode for those

“ Who toil,
And still from bud to bud, from flower to flower,
Travel the live-long day.”

The bees in a hive are called *a swarm*, which consists of a queen, several hundred drones, and many thousand workers. The queen lays about ninety thousand eggs in a season. The drones do nothing ; and, after living three months, are killed by the workers. These gather honey and wax from the bells of flowers, build up a six-sided cell in twenty-four hours, and then fill it with their sweet nectar ; thus taking care to provide against that season in which they cannot go abroad. What an instance do they afford us of the virtue of industry !

“ Let the idle look here and learn,
How good, how fair, how wise, it is to live by
honest labour.”

So, dear children, mark well what I
have said ; and now go, with a father's
blessing, to your rest.—Farewell.

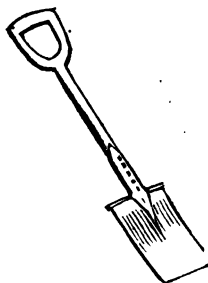


CHAPTER III.

I AM glad, my dear children, to see you so soon at my elbow, to hear my explanations: it is a clear proof to me that you have done your daily duties in a praise-worthy manner. Nothing rejoices the hearts of parents so much as to see their little ones careful to perform what is right, and studious to avoid what is wrong.

Now then, as I see four happy smiling faces about me, I cannot do less than begin my evening task.

This cut represents the cotter's daily



implement of toil — A SPADE, which is often found in my hands, as well as the poor cottager's; for I find the exercise of digging even my small garden of great service to my health. It is formed, as you may see, of a wooden handle, with a broad flat piece of iron at the end.

With this the earth is turned over in

our gardens, in the same way as it is done in the fields by the aid of the plough. After the spade has done its office, our friend the rake, like the harrow I yesterday told you about, comes into use ; and a very useful little tool it is, as you will see.

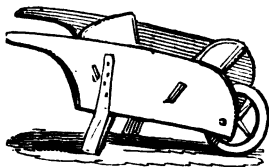


A RAKE is made of iron, having teeth of the same metal, and is fixed to a long

stick for use. With its aid, we break the rough clods which the spade left, rake off stones and weeds, and make our flower-beds and kitchen-gardens look neat and clean. The earth, thus made fine and even, is then ready for the seeds; to cover which, our friend, the Rake, is quite as ready and handy as it was to prepare a bed for them to grow in.

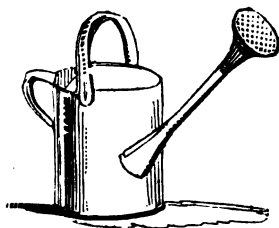
Well, I declare the next is neither more nor less than the very figure of our old Wheelbarrow, in which, I think, I saw you riding yesterday, Edith, very much to my dismay; for I dreaded its being turned over.

A WHEELBARROW is a very useful contrivance to all who have to move things,



which are too heavy to be carried by the hand, or in a basket. By means of a wheelbarrow, we can remove the rubbish from our gardens with little toil, bring gravel for our walks with little labour, and carry heavy articles from one place to another with ease and safety. It is like a square tub in shape, with a wheel in front to make it move easily along ; and with two handles to bear its legs from the ground and direct its course. Thus,

you 'see, how easy it is to make even senseless objects of the greatest use to us ; for here are only certain pieces of wood and iron, if taken by themselves, and yet they are so put together as to render one man able, by their aid, to remove burthens which three or four men perhaps could not carry.

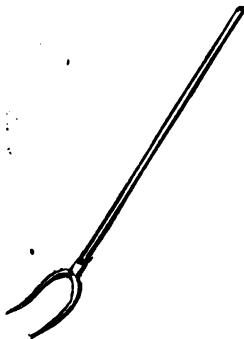


The WATERING-POT, the gardener's good friend, is a vessel made of tin, that

is to say, of thin plates of iron covered over with the metal called tin. It has two handles; one to carry it about, and the other to lean it forward with, as may be needful, when the water it contains is poured from the spout on the parched plants it so much befriends. The end of the spout has what is called a rose fixed on it, that is to say, a wide bell-shaped mouth with little holes made in it, for the better spreading its refreshing contents. How many a flower and shrub would die in the hot rays of the summer sun, were it not for the watering-pot! For, although God is good in giving us all we need, and denying us only what we do not require, except to our hurt, He still leaves much

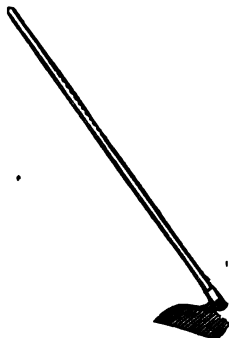
for man to do also ; otherwise, the world would be a garden of Eden, and man but a mere inactive looker-on.

The next Cut represents a Fork, with two prongs ; not like Neptune's trident, which has three teeth, or prongs. A FORK is merely two teeth fixed at the end of a staff, to enable us to take up hay or straw, dung, or any other light



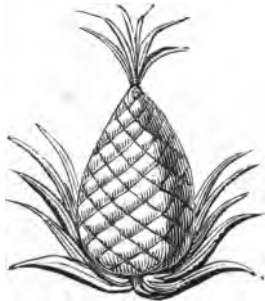
matters, which a spade will not effect. And here let me caution you not to play with dangerous tools ; for I have sometimes seen dreadful effects result from trifling even with such simple implements as the fork.

Here is another garden-tool, the HOE, the foe to weeds : it is a thin plate of iron, placed across the end of a stick,



to render the office of removing weeds less painful than plucking them out by the roots. With it, we can draw the earth round the roots of plants, cut up straggling weeds, and clear our walks of many things unsightly to behold in a neat garden.

“Now, little Edith, look at this Cut : it is a PINE-APPLE, for you to admire,

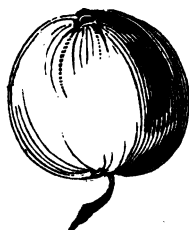


and also eat when I am rich enough to grow such choice fruit.

The Pine-apple is perhaps the most pleasing and grateful to the palate of any fruit this country affords, although it is so tender as only to be raised in a hothouse. In the West Indies, where it grows without culture, it is called the *anana*. The leaves of the wild anana are so well defended by prickles, and so strong of themselves, as to form very good hedges. The plants are raised by planting the crowns, which grow on the fruit, or its suckers.

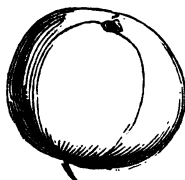
The COMMON APPLE is a very pleasant and useful fruit, as every person, I think, will allow.

There are many kinds of Apples ; as,



for instance, the pearmain, the golden russet, the nonpareil, the codlin, &c. The crab is the apple in its wild state : of its juice verjuice is made. The juice of apples forms what is called *cider*, a very refreshing and cooling beverage. In some counties, the apples are so abundant, as to yield many thousand hogsheads of cider in a year ; whilst, in others, the orchards are so much neglected, as scarcely to yield enough for common use.

Well, what comes in our next Cut?
Oh ! it is a Peach, I see, though of what
kind, I cannot exactly say.



The PEACH is one of our most grateful summer fruits, since its pulp is so very juicy and cooling. It grows, for the most part, on trees nailed to the walls, in order that its fruit may receive all the power of the sun, and yet be screened from the cutting north and east winds. I have seen it growing on standards; that is, on trees standing by them-

selves, as pear-trees, apple-trees, and the like ; but perhaps its fruit is never finer than when reared by the side of a house or a wall.

Now look at the Strawberry, which, from its size, I should take to be a wild one.



The STRAWBERRY, in its wild state, is found either on the sides of old sheltered banks, or in the warm sunny borders of woods. Some years since, when in

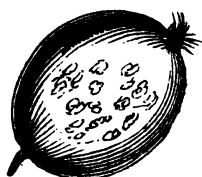
Essex, I saw some children gathering them, and then stringing them on long pieces of grass, to take home, I suppose, for their parents. The Strawberry grows on beds, having a very straggling root, and requires much care and management. They are very productive.

Well, Edith, I declare the next Cut presents us with a fine bunch of Grapes. I only wish they were real, in order that we might tell, by their flavour, to what kind they belonged.

GRAPES are, of course, the fruit of the vine ; and the vine may be a native of Italy, since it grows there perhaps in its greatest luxuriance. In some parts, the grapes are dried in the sun, or in ovens ; they are then called *raisins* ; in others

they are made into wine, by having their juices squeezed from them. These wines vary according to the fruit : thus the Portugal grape yields us Port ; the Isle of Madeira grape, Madeira ; the Rhenish grape, Hock ; and the Persian grape, Shiraz. The English grape is scarcely to be noticed by the side of the foreign ones.





The GOOSEBERRY, as you well know, grows on small bushes in our gardens, and is a fruit which does great injury to such as eat it in its unripe state ; though, when ripe, it is nearly harmless, if not eaten to excess. It makes a most excellent wine, if well managed, so nearly like Champaign, as to deceive many who drink it. There are many kinds of Gooseberries ; but as they are very much alike in nature and quality, I shall spare farther remarks about them.

I cannot close our evening's feast of pictured fruits, without begging you never to indulge in eating them to excess in their real state. Our good Father and Creator has made them for our use, not abuse. We are not to eat more of them than nature requires; if we do, we as certainly bring disease upon ourselves, as though we ate or drank poison. Therefore, be moderate whenever they are placed before you, my children, and leave off with a relish, even a longing for more; so shall your self-denial and prudence ensure your health, and prove that you deserve them.

Now, my little ones, put your pictures up, and hasten' to your rooms, for I have kept you too long, I fear, over our rakes, and hoes, and grapes, and apples. One kiss, and then—Good night !

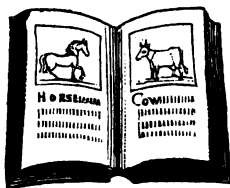


CHAPTER IV.

“WELL, Henry,” said the good Curate, on the following evening, “I see you have brought me two more Cuts to explain: so, Mary, Edith, and Edward, take your seats, my children, and I will begin my pleasing task, without loss of time.

Your first Cut, I see, is of a Book, with the figures of a horse and cow on its two open pages, with letter-press to explain them.

A Book, taken only as a work of art, is certainly one of the strongest proofs

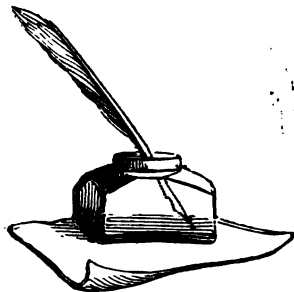


of human skill and ability. If we look only on its beautiful outside, its elegant binding, its golden ornaments, and marbled edges, we see much to admire ; but when we open it, and behold its pages of learning, all set in regular order, line by line, with its plates scattered here and there, and come to peruse it with attention, and glean knowledge from its leaves, we cannot but look upon it as a treasury of wisdom, and a storehouse of good thoughts and ideas. By them,

good men leave a legacy of truth and virtue to their children ; and learned men convey maxims, doctrines, and choice fruits of study, to their descendants.

Before the noble art of printing was known, books were written by scribes, monks, and others, on skins of parchment. These skins were wound upon two rollers, so that a person reading would take a roller in each hand, and, as he unfolded with the left hand to read, roll up again with the right when read. This accounts for Hebrew works being read from that part which forms the end of ours.

An Inkstand, Paper, and Pen, are three most useful every-day friends.

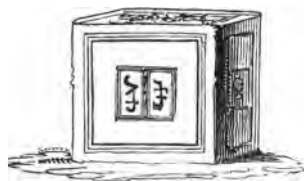


An INKSTAND is merely a glass or leaden vessel, to contain writing-ink.

This ink is made of Aleppo galls, copperas, and water, with gum arabic, according to certain rules. The Pen comes from the wings of poor geese, in the state of a feather, or quill, and transmits its ink to the paper according to the will of the writer. Paper is made from the pulp of rags, by a very curious pro-

cess. In China they make paper of rice, nay even of straw.

The Paper used by the ancients was merely the broad leaf of the *papyrus* (a kind of reedy grass); hence its name is derived.



Our next Cut represents a TEA-CHEST. Tea is made by drying the leaves of the Tea-tree in the sun, so as to render them crisp without losing their virtue or essence. The Tea-tree is a shrub, like a myrtle, which grows in

China. It is an ever-green; and the Chinese pluck its long and narrow leaves in March for Bohea, and in May and June for Green tea. Thus the Bohea differs from the Green, in being gathered when the plant is in full bloom, and the leaves full of juice; whilst the Green is left longer on the tree, and contracts quite a different colour, taste, and virtue.

Tea was first brought into Europe in the year 1610, by the Dutch. In 1666, it was sold in London at sixty shillings a pound, and was of course a great luxury.

A Sugar-loaf, I see, comes next; and as Tea is not very pleasant without it, we will explain that also.

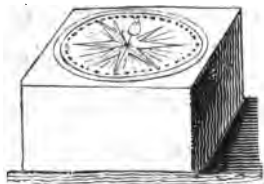


The SUGAR-LOAF is made by boiling the raw sugar as it comes from abroad, and cleansing it by adding blood or other matter to it, which will coagulate, or thicken, when cooled. When the sugar is melted, the other ingredients are mixed with it, so that it may, by thickening as it cools, be cleansed of its impurities. Thus the sugar becomes refined, the blood, &c. having, as it were,

strained it. It is then poured into sugar-loaf pots, with a hole at the lesser end, from whence the molasses, or treacle, drops, till it is put into the oven and baked. It then comes out pure white sugar. The cane from whence sugar is extracted grows in the West Indies, in great luxuriance. In Canada, they extract sugar from the juice of the maple-tree ; and in France it has been made from beet-root.

Our next Cut is, I see, the mariner's tried friend, the Compass, or the Binnacle of the sailor.

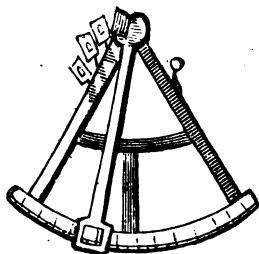
The COMPASS is a box formed of brass, having a needle hung inside it, upon a point or centre. This needle is a small bar of iron, touched by the magnet, or load-



stone, which gives it the singular property of turning always towards the North. If, therefore, the sailor be in doubt as to his course, he has nothing to do but to look at the Compass for information ; for it is always faithful to him, when the sun, moon, and stars are hid from his eyes. The needle varies, in different parts of the world, as to its direction ; and this variation, of course, is allowed for. In our climate, it points many degrees to the West of North.

Our next Cut presents us with another seaman's friend, the Quadrant, of which I shall give but a brief account.

The QUADRANT is part of a circle, made of ebony or brass, with a brass limb, or index. I cannot explain to you the way in which it is used with any hope of your understanding me at present; but with this instrument the mariner finds his time, place, and distance he has sailed, by certain rules, which are taught by the science of navigation.





Here is a STAGE-WAGGON, as you see: it is a four-wheeled machine, for the conveyance of heavy goods; and is a slow traveller, but a very sure one; for you very seldom find it much after its time. Its regular arrival at its houses of call, renders the tradesman able to promise when his next goods will be shewn for sale, and the poor traveller certain when he shall reach his home; as its strength and steadiness ensure

safety, if not comfort. Thus a Stage-waggon is no bad emblem of a regular man ; for it makes no promises which it does not keep, as he makes no engagement which he does not intend to fulfil.

A Coach comes next, I declare, scorning, by its gaudy appearance, our plain Stage-waggon in front of it.

A COACH, or Carriage, is merely a four-wheeled vehicle on springs, wherein the wealthy ride at ease.

Human skill and invention have done their utmost to make its movements at



once graceful and easy, by springs and leathers, soft cushions, and well-stuffed backs and sides. It was invented in the sixteenth century.

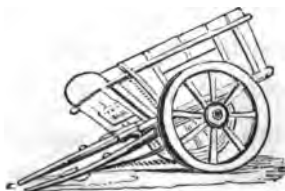
A CHAISE, or Gig, comes next, for I cannot tell whether its springs be steel, leather, or wood ; were they of the latter substance, it would be only a Gig. It is, as you see, a two-wheeled carriage, drawn by one horse, and only large enough to contain two travellers with any degree of



comfort. It is not the safest vehicle in the world ; for, if your horse fall down, you must, do what you can, come to the ground also ; and then broken limbs and severe bruises are not merely things to dream of, but to be realized and suffer under.

A CART is a very plain, but well-made vehicle.

The Cut shews a two-wheeled cart, or carriage, for the conveyance of heavy goods, gravel, stones, flour, turnips, or what not. It is heavy to draw ; but



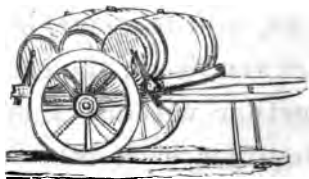
then it is very safe and useful, and takes up but little room. Many of our forefathers were content to ride in carts, even on visits or parties of pleasure, and they were wise ; for if they did not travel very fast, or easy, or in great style, they had no great dread of breaking their bones, or of being overturned. They did not study appearance, but safety, and so far they were wise.

A Brewer's Dray, I see, is the subject of the next Cut, with its casks of Porter and Ale.

The DRAY, you perceive, has no sides, for none are required ; the casks lie very snugly together without them ; and if they do shoulder each other rudely, as they rumble along, they are well hoop-

ed and filled, and receive blows from each other with great good-will.

Empty casks are the most troublesome gentry ; they are never easy in their places, but always jolting and rattling about, as if constantly at variance with each other. Like empty-headed or silly people, they make a great noise in the world about nothing at all, and ten times more din than a hundred men whose minds are stored with sound sense and discretion.





In our last Cut for this evening I see a **TRUCK**, which is a two-wheeled carriage also, fit only for the conveyance of light goods from shops to customers' houses. It is commonly drawn by a man, or a boy; and sometimes we see a dog underneath, to assist. Trucks are very useful in large towns, where customers' goods (too heavy perhaps to be carried by the hand) have to be taken great distances; but the labour of pulling one of these vehicles along the streets of

London must be very great, where there are so many obstacles to impede its progress.

I have thus finished for this evening; and as it is still light enough for you to play a little longer, you may go and run on the terrace, till your Mamma may think proper to say it is bed-time. So, my little girls and boys, think of what I have said, although at play, and then to bed.



CHAPTER V.

WELL, my little folks, I feel very happy in seeing you again by my side, to hear me explain Mamma's pictures ; and from a glance which I have just given at them, I think they promise us much amusement this evening.

The first object that takes the eye, is the Cut of a Windmill, one of our very good friends, to whose labours we are much indebted.

The WINDMILL contains one pair or more of stones, moved by the force, or



action, of the wind on the sails. The sails, as you perceive, are four long frames, on which canvass is spread, to catch the wind. When they begin to move, they turn several wheels in the mill, which at length give motion to the upper stone of each pair, the lower one being fixed on its bed. Over these, a hopper is placed, which drops the corn between them as they work, where it

is ground into flour, or meal, for our use. The old method of reducing corn to flour, was by pounding it in large vessels, or rolling a large stone round in a kind of mortar; this was done by two women generally, seated on opposite sides, and whirling the stone from one to the other. Hence that passage in the *New Testament*, "Two women shall be grinding at the mill, the one shall be taken, and the other left."

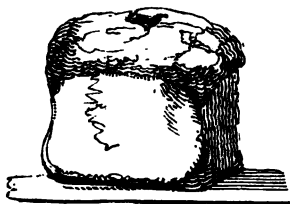
The other Cut is of a Watermill, and needs but little explanation.

The WATERMILL is very like the Windmill, except that instead of being put in motion by the wind, it is moved by water. A river, or rivulet, is dammed up, or stayed in its progress, in a part



of its course, where it may have a good fall, that is, a descent from its level to the channel below.

The water, thus stopped, falling on a large wheel covered with float-boards, or buckets, at the will of the miller, causes it to revolve; and thus that motion is given to the wheels and stones, which the business of grinding may require. Millstones have their surfaces grooved, the better to crush the corn as they revolve.



Our next Cut is a LOAF, of which very little need be said.

It is formed of flour, mixed and stiffened with water or milk, and worked by yeast into what is called *dough*, or *paste*. It is then put into the hands of the baker, who, having sufficiently heated his oven, places the paste, made up into loaves, within it. The loaves are then left a certain time to bake or harden, and thus become bread, the staff of life, and the support of man.



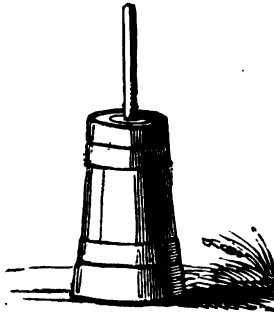
FLOUR, I see, comes next, in its sack ; but, as I have before explained what flour is, in describing its origin and use, I shall lose no time in paying our respects to the Milk-pail ; for I am not willing to part two such good friends as Bread and Milk, for the sake of burthening my shoulders with a sack of flour ; for truly it is no light weight, being no less than 280 pounds.



The MILK-PAIL is a subject of everyday life. We see it in the early morn, as the merry milkmaid trippeth along the dewy grass to her favourite cows, with music on her tongue, and heart's-ease in her bosom ; and again we behold it at the close of day, when the evening star is peeping out of heaven, and the song of the jocund maid soundeth o'er the meads. Milk, as you must know, is that healthy and sweet liquid

which a good Creator has given to the cow for the support of her calf; but when the calf is taken away from her, then she refuseth not to yield more, for the comfort of little girls and boys, and the use of man in general. The thick substance, I might almost call it, which floats on the top of new milk, is called *cream*; of this, cheese is made, and butter also when it has passed through the labour of the Churn, which, I see, the next Cut offers to our view.





The CHURN is a simple dairy instrument, in which the cream is put for the making of butter. The cream, being stirred about in the churn by the upright staff with a wide board at its lower end, for some time, changes its thicker part into butter, and its more liquid part into what is called butter-milk, a very refreshing drink to such as delight

in simples. Some are called barrel churns, and are turned by a winch or handle.

But now, I see, we must leave off talking about green fields, and cows, pretty dairy-maids, curds and cream, custards and trifles, and become grave; for I see a Church before us.

A CHURCH is a building, or temple,



set apart for the purpose of prayer and worship. It is a house devoted to God and his service, and must not be talked about lightly. Within its sacred walls we assemble on Sabbath-days to praise and adore Him, "whose temple is all space; whose altar, earth, sea, sky;" as Pope, in his *Universal Prayer*, has sweetly sung. Therefore, let none presume to enter so holy a place with levity or mirth, or light and careless steps, or giddy head or heart; for "God is present there."

Churches were begun to be built in this country about the year of our Lord 708: the first was at Glastonbury. There are upwards of 9000 Churches in England and Wales.



Our next Cut represents a Palace, with its wings and offices.

A PALACE is the abode of Kings or Princes, the mansion where pride and folly too often dwell; and yet we must not suppose that all who live in such lofty style and state are vain and proud, or foolish, or unjust; for there are many even of the highest rank, who are not more famed for wealth and power, for lofty palaces or splendid halls,

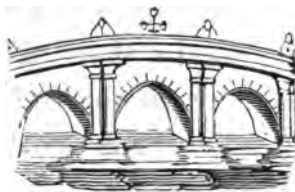
than for their piety and goodness of heart, their kindness to the poor, their love of learning, and their affable manners, even to those who are very far beneath them. Our good King is a noble example to all his subjects, whether high or low, of that true nobility whose best support is virtue, whose richest ornament is a good name, and whose best crown is the love of his people.

Next we have a FARMHOUSE, the seat of comfort—the very place where health, and peace, and independence, ought to reside. There it is where Britain may boast of her sons and daughters, the strongest supporters of her welfare and her fame; for wealth has not filled their hearts with pride, nor poverty depressed

their souls with meanness. If virtue is to be found in the world, I should say, look in at that farmer's abode, whose children are brought up in the fear of God, the love of their king and country, and the true principles of morality and virtue.



A BRIDGE, I see, follows the Farmhouse; and such a bridge as I should suppose no one would fear to cross.



Bridges are used in these modern times instead of fords or shallows, where men, cattle, and carriages were forced to wade and travel through rivers and streams. Hence the names of many towns end with ford, as Chelmsford, Brentford, &c. In some parts of the North of England, I have seen these fords so swollen with rains as to be very dangerous, when even the stepping-stones by which people crossed it on foot, were many feet

deep in the flood. At these fords many hundreds of folks have lost their lives ; thanks, then, be to those whose public spirit leads them to throw bridges over these streams, for the comfort and safety of their fellow-creatures !

A COTTAGE comes next ; and such a Cottage as many a poor man would be glad to reside in, although its appearance be not very inviting. It has a warm thatched roof, a seat at the door, and, I



dare say, common comforts within ; and with these things the peasant is content. And well (if a good man) may he be so ; for he has perhaps a wife and children whom he loves ; and to see them well clothed and fed, is more pleasing to him than riches to the miser, or power to the great. Contentment has great charms for him ; and being at peace with God and man, he can lay down his head on his hard pillow and sleep in peace ; for the same Power which looks down on the wicked man with reproof and censure, protects and blesses him.

The Cottage-well closes our evening studies ; and as it will afford me room to give you a few cautions, it forms a good conclusion.



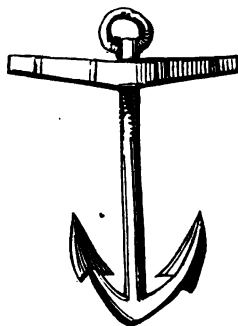
A WELL is merely a deep hole, sunk into the earth till the well-digger arrives at those springs of water which God has wisely spread under the surface of the earth for the use of man. Its sides are bricked round, and the water which rises in it is raised by a bucket hung to a roller by a chain, or rope. By turning this roller one way, we raise the full bucket ; and, when empty, by turning the handle the other way, the bucket is let

down and filled again. And now let me give you a caution ; for many children have a very naughty trick of peeping down these wells ; and sometimes they fall in, and are drowned, to the great grief of their parents, and their own destruction. Never be tempted, I beseech you, to go near them ; little folks have no business where danger is ; and I should think no punishment too severe for a child who would persist in exposing himself to peril for any cause, however powerful the temptation might be. With this advice, I close our evening's amusement. And now—Farewell, my dear little ones, and may your sleep be sound as your hearts are light !

CHAPTER VI.

ON referring to our Cuts for this evening, said the good Curate, I find, my children, we are about to become seamen or soldiers for a time; for all our discourse will be on subjects connected with the navy or the army. In one part, I see anchors, ships, and boats; and in another, guns, swords, and canons. Therefore, to use the language of sailors, we will at once get under weigh by raising the Anchor, and then push out to sea through the fleet before us.

An ANCHOR is an iron instrument, used to stay the progress of a ship, or fix it in one place on the water. Being lowered from the ship's side by a large rope, called a *cable*, it catches the ground below with its flukes, or points, and thus prevents the ship moving from its place. The bar crossing the Anchor is made of wood strongly clasped together with



iron, and, by keeping the fluke of the Anchor downwards, prevents its raking or moving ; for the stronger the strain is upon it, so much the deeper does it strike into the ground. The weight of the heaviest Anchor is about ninety-six hundred-weight.

The BOAT comes next, with the waterman, or ferryman, rowing it, and taking a lady and gentleman, either on the water for pleasure, or on their route towards the opposite shore. A Boat is a vessel on a small scale, which, from its



lightness, cuts the surface of the water with great ease and swiftness. It is impelled, or forced forward, by the rower, who, extending his oars as far backward as he can, and dropping them on either side his little boat, pulls them against the body of water, and thus, by the force used, and the resistance of the water together, he pushes his vessel with its freight, or load, briskly along.

Our next Cut presents us with a view of that most majestic mass of floating timber called a Ship, or Man-of-War, the bulwark of British glory, and the herald of her fame and power to all nations and climes under heaven.

A SHIP has three masts, with a pend-

ant, or streamer, at her mast's head. From yards, or, as you may call them, bars, slung across her masts, immense sheets of canvass are unfurled, or let down, which form her sails. The wind blowing full on these sails, impels the vessel through the waves at a very great rate, indeed so fast sometimes that they are forced to take in every stitch



of sail, and scud before the wind under bare poles, as it is called ; that is, with nothing but bare masts and rigging. This Ship appears to be a Man-of-War, as her port-holes, the places whence the cannon pour their destructive fire upon the enemy, are very clearly to be seen ; but whether she is of this country, or some other, I know not ; for the British Ensign, or Union-jack flag, is not worn at her stern.

In the next Cut I perceive a Sloop, tacking I suppose ; that is, standing across her course, with the wind on her side, a mode of sailing, though very tedious, yet needful when the wind is contrary, or, as seamen say, in her teeth ; that is, blowing directly against her.



SLOOPS have but one mast, and are for the most part coasting vessels, or traders from port to port. Some Sloops have crossed the widest seas ; but their safety I should have considered doubtful. They are generally used for the conveyance of goods and merchandize.

Next is a FISHING-SMACK, and, from its position, I should say it is cutting the waves at no mean rate ; for the



sailors are busy afore, and the steersman is quite easy aft, or behind, by the side of his tiller, (the bar fixed to the head of the rudder,) singing some salt-water ditty, I dare say, very much to his own liking. Fishing vessels do not go out to sea very far ; for it has so pleased God to provide for his creatures, that such fish as are fittest for man are to be found, at their

proper seasons, crowding in immense shoals to his native shores. Thus at one season we have shoals of herrings ; at another, mackerel ; and at another, pilchards ; for no sooner does one kind of fish take to deep water, than another supplies its place.

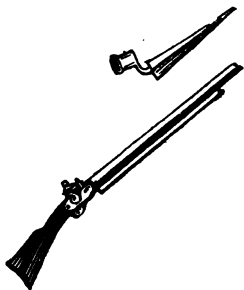
Now, my children, we have before us a representation of a STEAM-BOAT, one of those wonders of modern days which our ancestors would have scarcely dream-



ed of. As I shall have to explain the Steam-packet to you shortly, I shall defer saying more now about the Steam-boat, than that its course through the waves is effected by the power and agency of steam, and not by wind. The vessel appears to be full of people; and I am glad not to be aboard of it; for, from its appearance, I should judge it to be old and slightly built, and not the safest in the world to take a voyage in.

Here we have implements of deadly warfare.

The GUN may be called a weapon of defence and offence, since it enables a man either to defend his own life and property, or to commit ravages on the



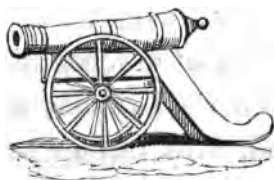
safety and security of others. It is formed of a stock, tube, and lock ; the first to hold it by, the second to contain the gunpowder, and the third to produce the spark, to ignite or set the powder on fire. Gunpowder was invented about the year 1320, by a monk of the name of Schwartz, though some believe it to have been made before.

A BAYONET is merely a short dagger,

affixed to the barrel of a gun, and derives its name from the place where it was first made, namely, Bayonne, in France.

My children, let me entreat you, as you value your own lives, and the comfort of your parents, never to sport with fire-arms, for dreadful accidents have occurred from merely playing with them.

A CANNON, whose dreadful mouth opens upon us in this Cut, is another of those warlike implements, an account



of which I could have happily dispensed with, for I am not pleased with things indicative of fields of carnage and destruction. To be brief, then, it is a great gun, made of brass or iron, for the purpose of firing immense balls on the enemy. Cannons were formerly made of bars or sheets of iron, welded and hooped together in the shape of a tube, or large pipe, and were used for throwing immense stones. At present, they fire balls of iron, varying in weight from forty-two pounds, to even half a pound. —So much for guns, of which I am glad to take my leave.

In our next Cut I recognise the Bowman's or Archer's TARGET, a round flat piece of wood, with circles painted upon



it, and a spot in the middle, called the *bull's eye*. Standing a certain number of yards from this, the archer takes his aim with his bow and arrow, and endeavours to hit the bull's eye in the centre; should he fail of this, his skill in archery is shewn by his hitting either of the painted circles: should he shoot wide of the target, he has but little claim to the title of an archer.

ARCHERY is the art of shooting with

a bow and arrow, and is of very ancient origin. In the earliest ages of the world, we find it used for the purpose of procuring food ; for Ishmael, we read, “dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer;” and in later periods, down to the invention of gunpowder, it was practised as an amusement, a necessary mode of killing animals, or for the purposes of warfare. Robin Hood and his merry men made the old forest of Sherwood ring with their exploits in archery, and many a fine buck fell beneath their arrows.

We will next look at the Bow, ARROWS, and QUIVER, the arms and implements of an archer.

The Bow was formed of yew, a kind



of wood uniting strength with *elasticity*, or springiness. The ARROW was also made of yew, though sometimes of reeds, hazel, or ash, shod with a kind of dart at one end, and fledged with gander's feathers, to direct its course, at the other. The QUIVER was only a case made to contain the arrows, into which they were put by sheaves, or two dozens, as required. Archery, I am sorry to say,

though a fine old manly exercise, is very little practised in the present day.

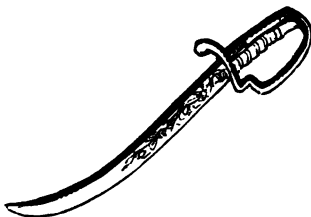
In the next Cut I see the Flag called the UNION-JACK, borne only by British ships, and appropriated to the Admiral of the Fleet.

It is called the Union, because it contains the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew blended. Beneath this flag, great victories have been achieved; and



never yet did it fall into the hands of the enemy, till English bravery had done its best, or treachery its worst.

The SWORD comes next, and needs but few words. It is an implement of war, made of steel, with a very sharp edge when taken to the battle-field. The best blades were made at Damascus, and were so fine and thin as even to sever a hair asunder, or cut through a limb at one blow. It is a weapon of blood, therefore let us pass it over in



peace; for, God be praised! we live in peaceful times, and long may they last! I must now finish my task for the evening, by thanking you for your attention, and bidding you good night.



CHAPTER VII.

I THINK, my dear little children, I have a treat for you this evening ; for I see, from our first page, that we are likely to be treated with something like a concert ; and, although we have no music-books before us, we can perhaps produce a few notes from each of our instruments, at once pleasing and enlivening. And first I see the spirit-stirring Trumpet, with its royal banner below.

The TRUMPET is formed of a long curved brass or silver tube, with a small



mouth-piece and a wide end. The trumpeter, blowing through this, produces such loud blasts as are almost incredible, and although his notes may not be very musical, they are at least sufficient to raise to arms, sound a charge, or proclaim a victory. The trumpet is the herald of Kings, the inciter to battle, or the messenger of peace; and never may it breathe other than notes of concord in these lands, where, in an-

cient days, it stirred up brother against brother, and friend against friend, in wars whose character was anything but civil.

And now for the Harp, whose silver strings the royal David touched, when his soul breathed melody to Heaven in Psalms to his Maker.

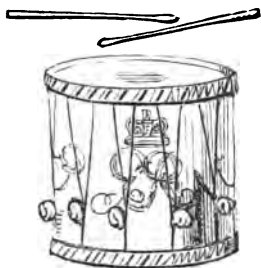
The HARP is an ancient instrument



of music, formed of three limbs or parts, of richly carved or painted wood, with strings of various lengths, stretched from one side to the other. The first, or largest part, is hollow, to give depth and richness to the notes; the second, or upright part, is merely to support and stay the third part, or head, on which are screws, for the purpose of tuning the strings. There are several kinds of harps — the Hebrew, Irish, Welsh, and British : which is the best, I am not musician enough to tell ; though, if I were to judge by the sweet strains sung to one, I should prefer that which Jubal invented, and the sweet singer of Israel so skilfully handled. The Harp is played by the fingers moving over the chords,

or strings, causing such of them to vibrate (and therefore sound) as may be required for the performance of any air.

In our next Cut I behold that noisy instrument of war, a DRUM, and no great favourite of mine, from the ideas connected with it. To me, it speaks, as it did to a poet of days gone by, of fields of blood, childless parents, and weeping orphans. It is a noisy compound of parchment and wood; the



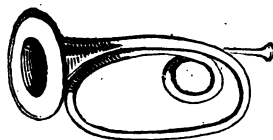
former being strained over a short broad tube of the latter by strings passing over its sides; and being beaten by two sticks with knobs at their ends, till its sound is enough to stun the ears of the bystanders. So much for the Drum; and now for that noble compound of all instruments, the Organ, a neat figure of which I see in this Cut.

The ORGAN is an assemblage of pipes, of various sizes, from that of a quill to



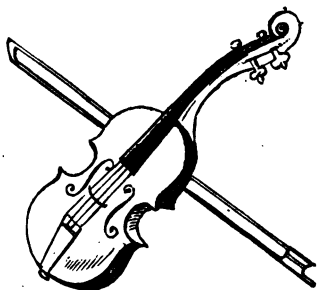
one almost as large as one's body. These pipes, from their tones, represent different musical instruments; thus one row, or stop, is the trumpet, another the flute, whilst a third may be a cremona, or an oboe, &c. Underneath these pipes are wind-chests, filled by bellows; and as the finger pressing down the key in front, opens the mouth of the pipe, so it emits a note in the same way as a whistle when you blow into the mouth-piece. Organs are of very ancient date; and, from the testimony of the venerable Bede, we find they were not unknown to the early Britons.

In the next Cut, I see, our engraver has given us the figure of a Bugle or French Horn.



The BUGLE-HORN is somewhat similar in construction to the trumpet, but its tone is far softer and sweeter. It is used in concerts with other instruments, and forms a very agreeable accompaniment. There is one, called the Kentish bugle, which, having keys, allows the performer to play even difficult pieces of music with precision and certainty.

A Violin and its Bow come now under our notice. The VIOLIN is perhaps the most perfect of all instruments, as its tones are capable of being varied at



pleasure. The violinist can make semi-tones, or half notes, or even finer divisions of each note, as the melody he wishes to embellish may require. It is formed of wood, with a hollow body, over which the strings are strained, and turned by pegs at the head. Its notes are produced by drawing a bow, made of horsehair, and rubbed with resin, over these strings. The violin is, generally speaking, a mirth-inspiring instrument ;

for, no sooner do many hear its sound, than they instantly begin moving their legs, and feet, and bodies, in unison, or agreement, with its music; and thus form the dance. The largest violin is called the Violoncello: not the Violin-chello, as many, ignorant of the Italian language, improperly spell it.

The CROWN is that splendid ornament which circles the brows of kings: it is made of gold, and set, or studded, with



precious stones of immense value. The crown of England is usually kept in the Tower of London, for safety. In the year 1671, one Colonel Blood attempted to steal the Crown ; but was stoutly resisted by Edwards, the keeper, who was forgotten by Charles the Second, in whose reign it happened ; whilst Blood was pardoned and received into favour.

A Bishop's Mitre comes next, the emblem of sacerdotal or priestly authority.



The **MITRE** is the ornament worn by a Bishop, denoting his dignity and power in the Church ; and, though coveted by many, is seldom or never placed on heads whose wisdom, learning, and piety, do not richly deserve it.

Our next Print presents us with a **Helmet**, seemingly such an one as is worn by the Horse-Guards, or some of the Dragoon regiments.

The **HELMET** is a kind of cap, made



to preserve the head from blows or cuts of the sword in warlike engagements. It is usually made of leather; though the helmets of ancient days were of iron, and weighed many pounds. On the top, a crest was usually worn, as the badge of the wearer: hence the crests which you see on seals, or on the upper part of a Coat of Arms.

The CUIRASS is a sort of breastplate, or iron defence, for the breast, or body. In former times, they were formed of scales



or links of iron or steel, in order that they might yield to the action of the body. They are still worn by some regiments, as many who witnessed the battle of Waterloo can testify. Soldiers wearing them are called Cuirassiers.

The TENT is the weary soldier's friend in his encampment, on his march, or in the field of battle. A Tent is made of canvass, supported in the middle by an upright pole, and strained down to the



earth by lines, extending from its head, and confined by pegs stuck into the ground. Beneath this, wrapped in his cloak or blanket, the warrior takes his rest, and dreams of his home, his friends, his little ones, and his own fire-side. When far away from all he holds dear, he supports the fame and glory of his beloved country against the attacks of its enemies.

Our last Cut for this evening represents a LANCE, or SPEAR, which is a weapon of offence and defence. Its shaft is made of wood, light, springy, and strong ; its head is formed of iron, or steel ; and the banner floating from it is of silk. The Spear is a very ancient weapon, as we may learn from its mention in the



Bible, where the shaft of one is recorded as being as large as a weaver's beam.

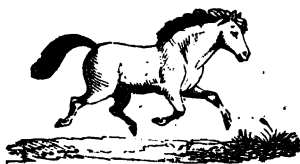
I shall now leave off for the evening, by requesting you not to rest satisfied with the little I have said on each subject, but to seek in other works for a more full account. I give you the general heads only; it is for you to fill up what is left, by habits of research and study. Now, once again, Good night, my girls and boys; and so, Adieu!

CHAPTER VIII.

WELCOME! my little boys and girls, to the retirement of my study; where, at our leisure, we will pore over a few more of your dear Mamma's cuts. I assure you, I feel great pleasure in finding you so regular in your attendance upon me; and for these two reasons: first, because it is a proof that your governess is satisfied with your diligence and attention; and, next, because I feel convinced, that you are anxious to gain knowledge from the lips of your father. In our first subject for this evening

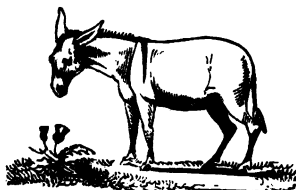
I see a Horse represented in its wild or natural state, with its flowing mane and streaming tail.

The HORSE is one of the most useful animals we have ; since it is ever ready to render us the aid we require, in the conveyance of ourselves and goods, in the tillage of our land, and the carrying home of our harvests. There are six species of the Horse ; namely, the common Horse, the Ass, the Zebra, the Quagga, the cloven-footed Horse of South America, and another, exceedingly wild, in the regions



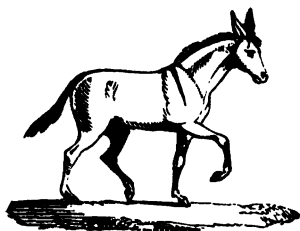
of Asia. In England, we have many breeds ; but Arabia produces the swiftest and the best.

Our next Cut represents that patient beast of burden, the Ass, the humble and quiet, though much abused friend of man. He works patiently for him the livelong day, content with the simplest fare, and, at night, looks for no other bed than the bare ground, the straw-yard, or the road-side. He is content with the most common herbs, for even a thistle is a treat to him ; although



rather particular as regards his water. Though cruelly used, for the most part ; yet, he never complains : he is, indeed, the emblem of patient resignation and forbearance.

The MULE, so proverbial for its stubborn or obstinate disposition, is a compound of the Horse and the Ass : resembling the former, its father, in strength ; and excelling the latter, its mother, in obstinacy. It is much valued for its hardihood and sureness of foot, and is



therefore much used in mountainous countries. Its driver is called a muleteer ; and, directed by him, it will carry burdens over the most dangerous passes, and on the heads of the most rugged precipices, with comparative ease and safety.

The ZEBRA, I perceive, is our next subject. The Zebra is one of the most handsome and elegantly clad quadrupeds in the world. With the shape and grace of the Horse, he combines the swiftness



of the Stag. He is a very untractable and ill-tempered animal, notwithstanding his handsome appearance ; a proof that beauty, either of person or dress, may exist where there is a bad temper or disposition beneath. It is a native of Africa, and never tamed.

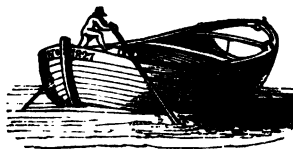
Leaving animals for the present, we will now visit a Barge full of Coals.

A COAL BARGE is a large, wide, and deep vessel, without sails, mast, or rigging ; which is moved by a man, with a long pair of oars, or a still longer pole. It is used for the purpose of removing coals from large vessels to the



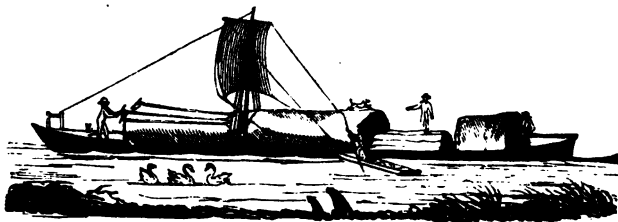
wharfs; where they are measured, sold, and carted away. They draw but little water, and are very safe.

A BARGE is but a boat on a large scale, having very commodious stowage for goods. Barges are generally used for conveying merchandize, &c. to and from ships lying in rivers; since they, like the Coal Barge, draw but little water—that is to say, require but little water to float them; and, consequently, are able to ply where ships cannot move.



In the two following Cuts,—for I shall call one engraving two, having two different matters to explain,—I see a Canal Barge and a Canal.

A CANAL BARGE is a very long narrow boat, for the conveyance of goods, by rivers or canals. It is long, in order that it may contain much ; and narrow, that it may be able to make its way even in small rivers or canals. It is generally towed along by horses walking on the bank ; though sometimes impelled by sails.



A CANAL is a narrow channel of water made from towns to sea-ports, or to form communication between large towns and rivers. Goods are thus cheaply moved by Canals from place to place, with little or no trouble. Canals are used in Holland in the place of roads.

Leaving shipping, we will again turn to animals: in our next Cut we see a NEWFOUNDLAND Dog, a most sagacious animal. The Dog is a very faithful, sensible, and useful domestic animal; the companion of man, either in plea-



sure or peril. Amongst the various breeds of these animals, the Newfoundland may be looked upon as one eminently useful to man. From the water appearing, as it were, almost its native element, it is very serviceable to such as reside near rivers, lakes, or ponds, &c. and many are the lives these faithful creatures have saved. I myself once saw a little child drawn out of a river by one ; and the gentleness and zeal it shewed were truly wonderful.

The BULL TERRIER is a compound of the English bulldog and the little sharp-nosed creature called the terrier. With the savage fierceness of the one, it combines the agility and watchfulness of the other ; and seems to be always



ready either to resent its own injuries, or to interfere in the quarrels of others. Like many other mediators or intermeddlers, it often comes off with more kicks, blows, and wounds, than the antagonists themselves receive : a warning to such as unwisely intrude in other people's quarrels.

The DROVER'S DOG is of a mongrel breed also, but is a very useful creature. By a mongrel, I mean one of mixed



breed, where the qualities of various dogs are so intermingled, that you are puzzled to say which one in particular it resembles. With the aid of this dog, the drover manages to drive his cattle through the most intricate ways and by-roads with ease.

The Fox-Hound is one of those dogs used for the amusement of those who are fond of hunting. These dogs have a very quick sense of smelling, as many



a sly Reynard, or old fox, has known to his sorrow. They are very swift of foot, and, when well trained, seldom fail to run the poor fox to his death, being well acquainted with all the tricks he may please to play, such as running on the tops of hedges, and seeking even stacks for security.

Turning again from animals, we will once more visit the sea, in order that we may pay our respects to a large



Schooner, a very pretty and well-drawn vessel. The SCHOONER is a large two-masted ship, whose only difference from a brig is the position of its masts and manner of rigging. It is a vessel of trade, and well adapted, from its size and mode of sailing, to coasting voyages.

In the next Cut, I perceive our engraver has given us a Cutter, with the

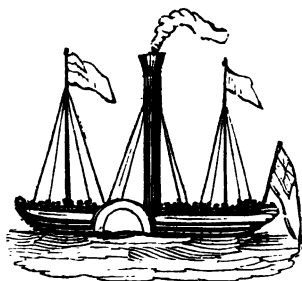


Union-jack flag streaming from the peak of its mainsail. A CUTTER is a very swift-sailing vessel, being lightly built, rigged, and manned. Cutters are used for the conveyance of government messengers, mails, despatches, or anything that may require haste. They are generally esteemed safe ; although, from the press of sail they sometimes carry, one would think the contrary.



You may now behold a **SAILING BARGE**, well laden with merchandize. I have before described a barge to you : this is one of a somewhat different shape, though its use is the same ; and as it has to glide over deep waters, where neither oar nor pole can avail much, it is impelled forward by sails, set as you see, and guided by a wide rudder.

The gallant Steam Packet comes next ; and here I must occupy your attention for



a short time. The **STEAM PACKET**, like the steam barge, is moved by the force of steam, as the name implies. In the body of the vessel a steam engine is placed, which, moving a paddle-wheel on each side of the packet, impels it forward by their action against the water. Steam is a very powerful agent, and is formed by water being exposed to great heat ; fourteen inches of water, thus exposed, produces twenty feet of steam ;

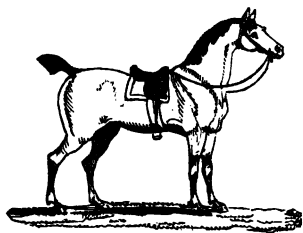
and from this expansion and its condensation, or being cooled by cold water, properly managed, it moves a piston-rod upwards and downwards in a tube, in the same way as a pump-rod moves. This motion, communicated to certain wheels forming part of the steam-engine, is then applied to any other machinery. So much for this wonderful invention, the steam engine, and its application to ships.

Steam navigation was first carried into proper effect by Fulton, in the year 1812. For the present, my children, we will close our evening's task, and bid Good night !

CHAPTER IX.

THE following evening, our friend the Curate thus resumed his task : Well, my children, our explanations are nearly at an end ; for, in one evening more, we shall finish our interesting employment : therefore let us make the most of the present opportunity, by entering as largely as possible into the nature of the following subjects.

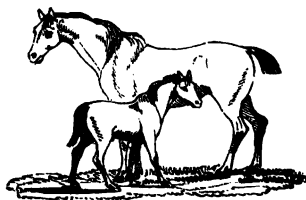
The first Cut, I see, represents a horse, saddled and bridled ; which, for the sake of distinction, we will call a Hackney, or Roadster.



A HACKNEY is usually a clever well-formed horse, fit for the saddle only; having a sure foot, a good eye, and that best of all recommendations, gentleness. Some horses, like men, are miserably ill-tempered and refractory, rearing up at one time, kicking at another, and, last of all, perhaps running away with their riders, to the imminent hazard of their necks. In choosing a horse, therefore, a man ought to be as careful as in select-

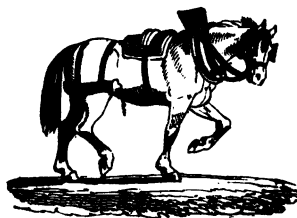
ing a friend ; for a false friend will betray his confidence, and a bad horse will do its best to put his life in jeopardy.

The MARE and FOAL form a very pretty sight ; especially when the latter is very playful, and desirous of making his dam or mother as ridiculous as himself. The Foal will then frolic about the field like a little simpleton, leaping up in all forms here, kicking with all his might there, and then running with all



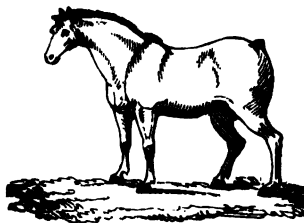
his speed, to play some coltish trick with his sober dam.

The steady DRAY-HORSE comes next, and is another variety of the horse, though not less useful than the best of the other kinds. As you may perceive, he is made for strength, with a fine shoulder for a collar, and good and strong, though not ugly, legs for the worst of roads. He has got his harness on, ready for the shafts of the cumbersome vehicle he drags behind him ; but



as he appears from his condition to be well taken care of, we will leave him to his labour ; and turn to the old Cart-horse in the next Cut.

The OLD CART-HORSE belongs to a breed but seldom seen in these days. You see it has merely a stump or an apology for a tail ; and some of the old ones were so cruelly disfigured in this way, as to scarcely have length sufficient to hold the crupper. The horse before us is a very powerful one, as you may



perceive; every limb being large and muscular. His only deformity is that bob tail; and that unsightly appearance he owes to the cruelty of man, who, fancying he could improve the work of his Maker, deprived him of the only defence he had against his summer tormentors, the flies.

Our next animal for consideration appears to be the MASTIFF, a large and strong dog, of sullen expression, with pendent ears, and large loose lips. Houses

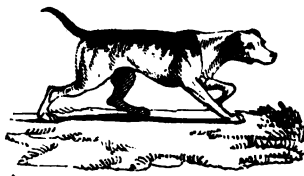


and property are safely placed under the guard of a Mastiff, whose loud and terrific bark gives notice to intruders that he is ready to defend his charge. Three of these animals it is considered, would be formidable to a bear, and four might prove a match for a lion.

The CARRIAGE DOG is a very pretty spotted animal, of Danish or Dalmatian extraction. I do not know that it is celebrated for anything, except following in the retinue of the great, with the

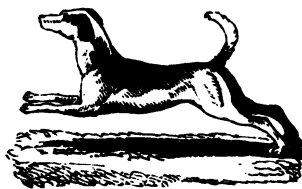


usual fidelity of the species ; therefore we will pass on to the POINTER, which we may call the sportsman's companion, who, taking his gun goeth out with him into the stubbled fields in quest of game. For the purpose of finding his bird, the pointer precedes him ; and when he is come within sight of the game, he stops, holding up one of his legs, and pointing with his nose to where the birds &c. are quietly feeding or reposing. The sportsman approaching, with his gun



ready, rouses the birds ; and, being prepared for them, he seldom fails of bringing some to the ground, unless he be a bad shot, or a bungler at his deadly warfare.

The STAG-HOUND is celebrated for strength, lungs, and speed. The poor Deer being roused from his lair, off these creatures scour after him, in assembled packs, making the woods around ring with that melody so dear to huntsmen's ears.





The next Cut presents us with a small row-boat, called, by sailors, a GIG, from its extreme lightness, and the speed with which it cuts the surface of the water.

The Gig is generally to be found suspended by the sides, or to the rigging of large merchant ships, for the sole use of the captain, when he chooses to land.

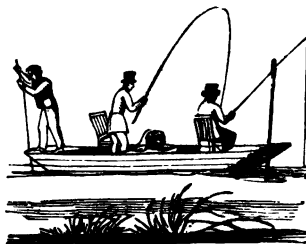
From its size and lightness, its crew are enabled to venture through waves which would swamp a heavier and larger boat.



The FERRY BOAT is a small vessel used for the conveyance of passengers over rivers, or small arms of the sea. It is light, yet strongly built, and is commonly managed by one pair of oars, but in shallow water it is sometimes impelled by a pole, from its depth being insufficient to allow of the oars being used.

The next Print gives us the Fishing Punt, with a party of anglers, all busily engaged.

The PUNT is a square-built boat, with a flat bottom, in order that it may be

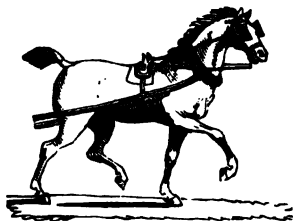


pushed over shallows, or through weeds, without fear of an overthrow, or *capsize*, as a sailor would say. In the one before us, I see two anglers, very comfortably dropping their lines into the water; whilst a man is staying the boat with a pole, stuck in the mud, I suppose. One angler appears to have hooked a fish, by the bending of his rod; whilst the other appears to be very patiently waiting a like run of good luck.

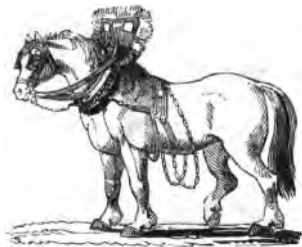


The SAILING-BOAT is a neat trim vessel, well calculated for making a speedy trip and stemming a rough sea. It appears very light or buoyant ; and I should judge, by the composure of the person at the stern, that he is perfectly confident of its safety, yield as it may to the influence of the gale.

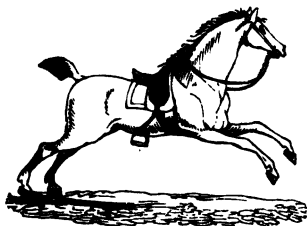
Leaving marine affairs, we will vary our studies, and pay our respects to the CHAISE-HORSE, which is a pretty, well-



made little horse ; and, from his manner of action, I should say quiet in harness, and very safe to sit behind. As I do not see a shaft, I am not quite certain that I am right in calling him a Chaise-horse ; but, as he has traces on, I should judge he is walking from the stable to the chaise-house, to be put in ; or perhaps he may belong to a curricule, where horses run in pairs, with a pole between them.



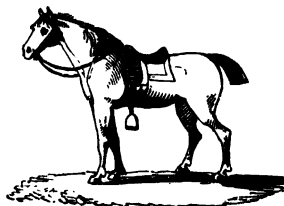
In our next Cut I cannot be mistaken, for there stands our good friend, the CART-HORSE, in his traces and harness, just returned from a hard day's work, I suppose, and waiting the care and assistance of his driver. He is very much like a dray-horse in figure and in size; and from his heels, I should say he is one of the Lincoln breed, the most useful of the kind, with the exception of the Suffolk horse, that we have.



The RACER, or runaway horse, which you will ; for I see he has thrown his rider, and is making the best of his way, either across the course if he be a racer, as I judged him to be, or to his stable, if he be merely a common riding horse. The Racer is a horse reared and trained with the utmost attention to his shape, air, and paces. Racing is much practised at various places in England, to keep up the breed of horses, by bestow-

ing prizes on such horses as excel. Betting is the greatest vice that attends it, and I heartily wish that could be prevented, for it is the ruin of many.

Here is a PONY, saddled and bridled, for a little boy's airing, or amusement. From its make, I should say, it has a little of what is called blood, or good breeding, in it ; for its legs are fine, its head small, although its shoulders may not be quite so good as to entitle it to the appellation of a very handsome blood pony.



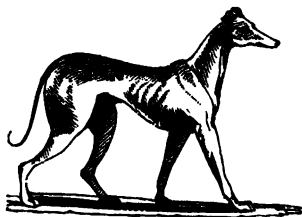
Having finished our prints for this evening, you may retire, carrying this caution with you, never to approach horses, ponies, or asses, for the sake of fun or foolhardiness ; for many have had reason, by broken limbs, to lament their temerity. They are for our use, and not to be made playmates of.

Once more, Good night !



CHAPTER X.

FOR the last time, my good little girls and boys, we shall amuse ourselves over your present of prints ; for this evening will conclude the set, and I must then find something else to amuse and instruct you. The first Cut is the GREY-HOUND, a dog matchless for speed and quickness of sight. This dog has a long body, a neat-shaped head, a full eye, a long mouth, sharp teeth, little



ears, a graceful neck, and a broad and strong breast. He is used for coursing, that is, running down hares, and is said to outlive all other kinds of dogs.

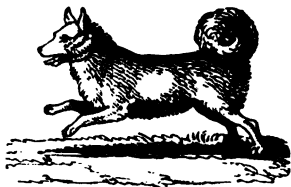
A WATER-SPANIEL is a very useful animal for fetching things out of the water, or for diving. I have seen one that would fetch even a sixpence up from the bottom of a deep stream. In shooting wild fowl, these dogs are very necessary to fetch the fowls when shot, or to pursue them through reeds and rushes,



which no other dog will do so well or so speedily.

Our next Cut presents us with a dog, which I shall distinguish by the name of a MONGREL CUR, since its race cannot be well ascertained. These dogs have very often something of the bull dog in them; as may be seen in drovers' dogs, as I have before observed. They have their uses; many of them being very faithful guardians of the property of their masters, by night or day.





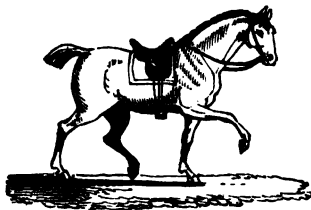
A Fox-dog is a compound of the dog and fox. This animal is often used in decoys, for the purpose of driving the wild fowl into the nets. I, myself, once saw one thus engaged; and no sooner did the fowls perceive him swimming towards them, than, taking him for a fox in pursuit of them, they hurried across the pond, into one of the decoy nets, where many of them were safely secured at the end, in a box; whilst he was preventing their escape through the large meshes of the net, at its beginning.



Ah ! here we have the CHARGER, or WAR-HORSE, with all his trappings around him : and as there is such a beautiful description of him in the Book of Job, I shall take this Cut, and the next, representing the COSSACK'S WAR-HORSE, together ; and quote it for your admiration. God, reasoning, with vain man, saith : “Hast thou given the horse strength ; hast thou clothed his neck with thunder ? He pauseth in the valley, and rejoiceth in his strength ; he

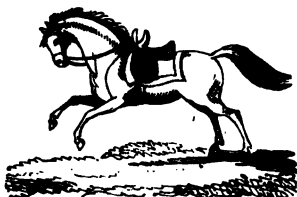


goeth on to meet the armed men. He mocketh at fear, and is not affrighted ; neither turneth he back from the sword. The quiver rattleth against him, the glittering spear, and the shield. He swalloweth the ground with fierceness and rage, neither believeth he that it is the sound of the trumpet. He saith among the trumpets, Ha-ha ; and he smelleth the battle afar off, the thunder of the captains, and the shouting.”—Job, chap. xxxix. verses 19 to 26.



The GALLOWAY, or, as some call it, the Cob; being less than the riding horse, yet much larger than the pony, is a very clever little animal, generally pretty sure-footed, and easy in its paces; though I have seen some uncommonly spirited; nay, even vicious; for they are not less free from faults than others, although many prefer them to a large full-boned horse.

The LADY'S PONY, with its elegant saddle, comes in the next Cut; and, for aught I see, is a very pretty little well-



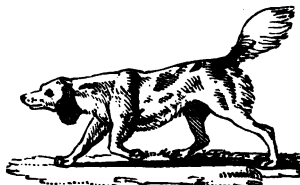
built fellow. He appears to have plenty of spirit ; and, although I see no one in the saddle, I trust he has not been so ungallant as to leave his fair rider behind him, in the dirt. However that may be, he does not seem disposed to stop in his career ; so, we will leave him to his gallop, and pass on to the next subject.

The SHEPHERD'S DOG, is one of the most faithful and sagacious animals we have. See him with the flock of his master ; how he marshals it, and directs it at will ! Should a sheep, or a



silly frolicsome lamb, stray beyond his bounds, he soon fetches it back, and without injury to its fleecy coat. He is a thoroughly good-tempered fellow, and ready, in all weathers, to tender his kind master service.

The SETTER comes next, the valuable assistant to the sportsman, in finding,



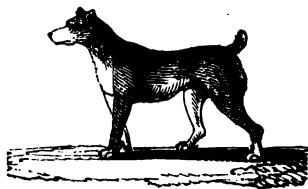
and even, as I have seen, fetching the game. His coat is more like the spaniel's than the pointer's, being rough, hairy, and long; and he has also a shaggy tail and slouching ears. See him now! he has discovered the game, and has made what is called a *dead set* at it.

The HARRIER, or Hare-hound, is next, and appears to be in full cry after the poor hare, which is doubtless scudding away before him, with panting heart and sinking frame. However some may qualify hunting a poor timid hare to death with a pack of hounds by the name of



sport, I cannot bring myself to believe that such sport is the pleasure of a really humane man, or one who rationally believes that animals are sent for our use, and not abuse.

The LURCHER. This dog, possessing a good nose, or sense of smelling, with quickness of sight, and great speed, and plenty of courage, is the proper and only companion of the poacher. By its aid, he tracks his game, finds, and kills it. They are also reckoned good dogs for the destruction of vermin.





In the next Cut you may perceive a SHIP'S BOAT with four rowers, conveying passengers, either to the ship, or shore. It appears to be a very safe strong-built boat, fit for any sea, as ships' boats ought to be ; for, in case of a fire, or wreck, what mode of escape have they, unless their boats are of a construction and make that will render them serviceable in the roughest seas ?

Look at this PLEASURE-BOAT, with its jovial party on board, under an awning ; inhaling the sweet breeze, or dancing over the gentle ripple of some peace-



ful lake. I do not know anything much more delightful than a water excursion of this kind, where safety is combined with comfort, and health with amusement.

In our last Cut I have not only the STATE BARGE of the City of London before me, but its Lord Mayor also.

This elegant and splendid vessel is that in which the Chief Magistrate of London makes his processions by water. It is richly adorned with the banners of the various Companies, and with the banner, or flag, of the City of London,



floating at the stern. Rowers, you see, there are in abundance, and all necessary attendants, to make its progress pleasing and flattering to those on board.

The LORD MAYOR is the presiding Magistrate of the City of London. The duration of his office is one year ; but instances of re-election have occurred, and in former times the office has been occasionally held by the same individual for several years. It is a mark of high distinction to a citizen of London ; and

many men who have even risen from obscurity by their good conduct and integrity, have filled, at various times, the Civic Chair.

Having brought our task to a close, I shall in conclusion request you, my dear children, to treasure up in your minds what has been said. For, I think, you will do me the justice to say, that I have studied to please you. And all I ask, in return, is, that you will prove by your future conduct, that the good advice I have sought every opportunity of affording you, has not been thrown away. Thus will these few simple Pictures have achieved their design; and so shall I have sown the seeds of knowledge in

a soil deserving my culture and pains. Remember, that you are accountable creatures, and that God will, one day, require from you an account of all you have done or left undone : when that day arrives, may the sin of neglecting a parent's counsel and instruction, be not laid to your charge ! Farewell, my dear children, Farewell !

THE END.

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